

**VERNONIA DIAZLUNANA (ASTERACEAE, VERNONIEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM JALISCO, MÉXICO**

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Vernonia diazlanana spec. nov.*, from southern Jalisco, México, is described and illustrated. It is closely related to *V. tortuosa* (L.) S.F. Blake and *V. koelzii* McVaugh, having vegetative features of the former but involucre features of the latter. It differs from both in its glabrous pungent involucre bracts.

KEY WORDS: *Vernonia*. Asteraceae, Vernonieae, México.

Preparation of a treatment of *Vernonia* for the Asteraceae of México (Turner & Nesom. in prep.) has revealed the following novelty.

*Vernonia diazlanana* B. Turner. *spec. nov.* (Figure 1). TYPE: MÉXICO.

Jalisco: Mpio. de Tecalitlán, Río San Pedro. bosque de encino. 1200 m, 20 Nov 1986, *Carlos Luis Diaz Luna 18179* (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).

*V. tortuosae* (L.) S.F. Blake similis sed bracteis involucri glabris apicibus carinati-apiculatis pungentibusque differt.

Shrub to 1.2 m high. Stems terete, densely short hirsute. Leaves alternate, those at or near midstem 10-14 cm long, 3-5 cm wide; petioles 10-15 mm long; blades elliptical, about equally tapered at both ends, pinnately veined, pubescent above and below, glandular punctate beneath, the margins serrulate to nearly entire. Heads sessile or nearly so, 6-15, arranged in scorpioid cymes, each usually subtended by a leaflike bract. Involucres campanulate, 9-10 mm high, the bracts 5-6 seriate, graduate, chartaceous, glabrous, the apices with somewhat keeled apiculations. Disk florets 30-40 per head, the corollas, when dry, pale purplish, the tube ca. 3 mm long, the limb ca. 4.5 mm long, the lobes linear, ca. 3.5 mm long. Achenes (immature) obpyramidal, ca. 1.5 mm long, densely appressed pubescent, the inner pappus of 40-50 white, readily

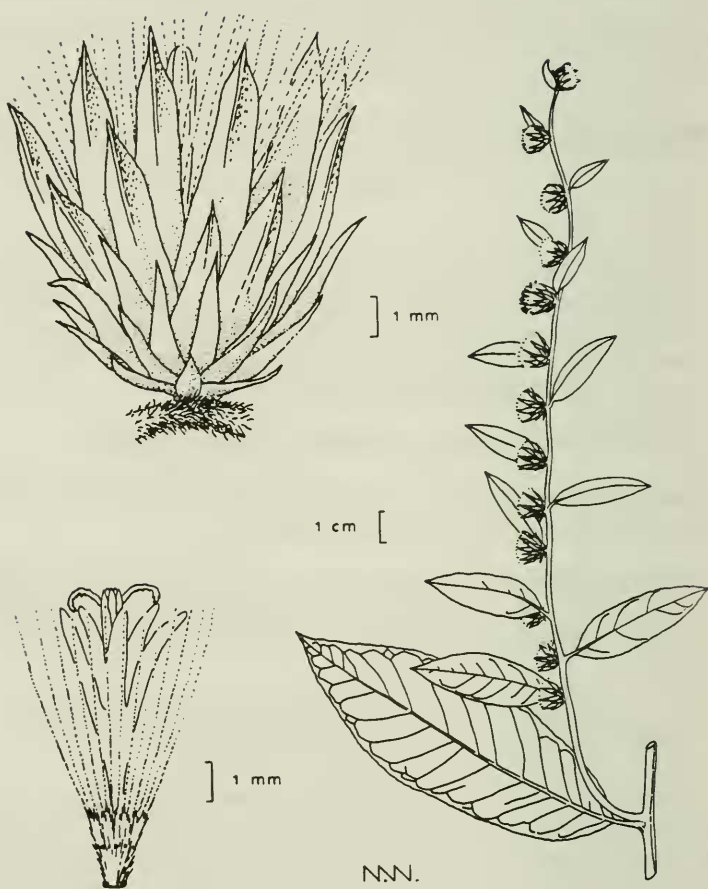


Fig. 1. Vernonia diazlanana, from holotype

deciduous bristles 6-7 mm long, the outer pappus of 15-20 white lanceolate scales, ca. 1 mm long.

*Vernonia diazlanana* is closely related to *V. tortuosa* (L.) S.F. Blake of eastern and southern México, but is readily distinguished by its chartaceous involucre bracts, all of which possess somewhat keeled, apiculate, pungent apices; those of *V. tortuosa* are broadly obtuse or rounded and lack an apiculation. It might also be confused with *V. koelzii* McVaugh, which occurs in nearby Colima, but which is readily distinguished by its smaller heads with densely pubescent involucre bracts and broadly ovate leaves. Indeed, *V. diazlanana* appears to stand between *V. tortuosa* and *V. koelzii*, perhaps somewhat closer to the former, although McVaugh (1984) does not account for *V. tortuosa* in his *Flora Novo-Galiciana*.

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#### LITERATURE CITED

- McVaugh, R. 1984. *Flora Novo-Galiciana*, vol. 12, Compositae. University of Michigan Press. Ann Arbor.